



3

FINAL

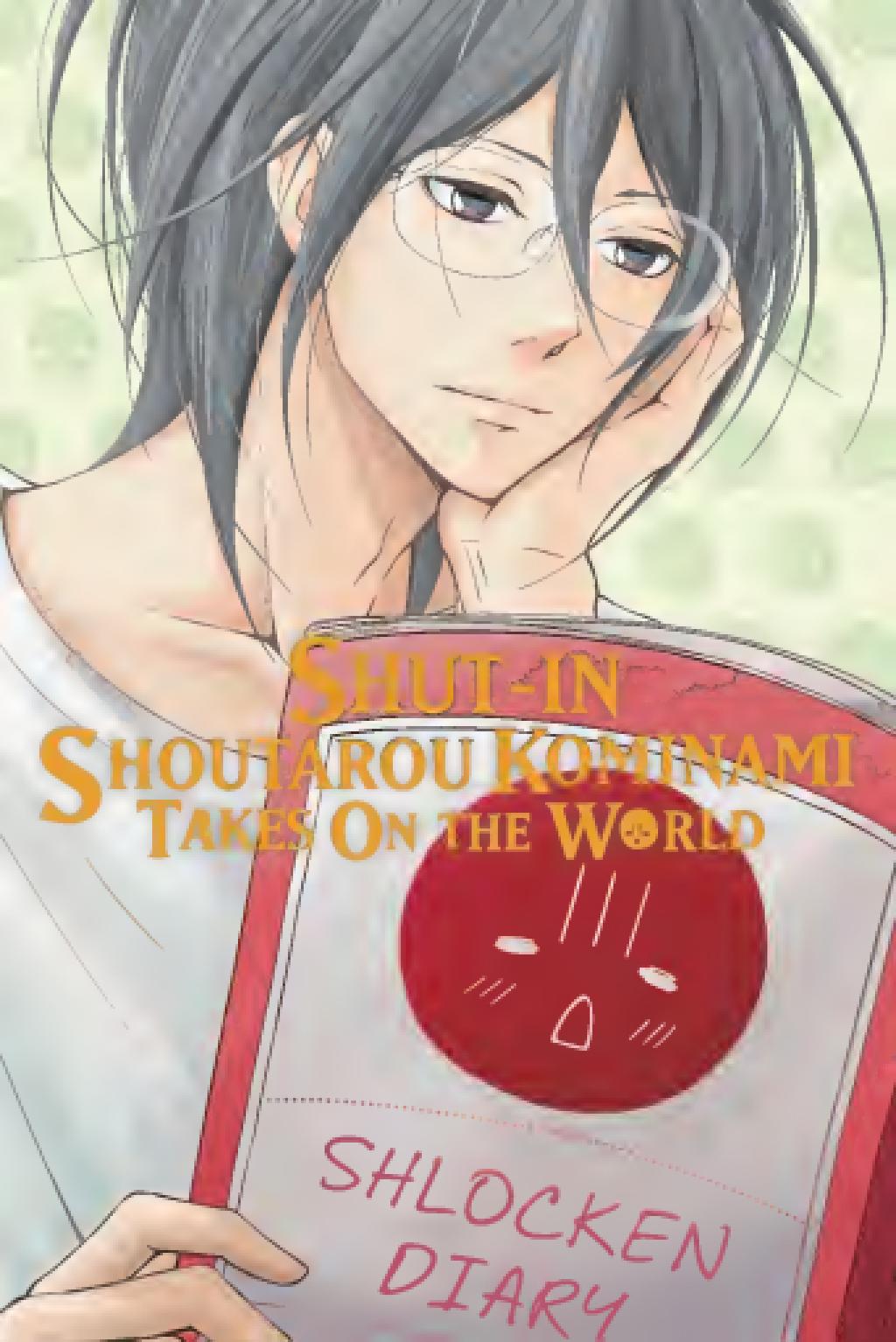
# SHUT-IN SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI TAKES ON THE WORLD



SHLOCKEN

DAN ICHIKAWA





# SHUT-IN SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI TAKES ON THE WORLD



SHLOCKEN  
DIARY

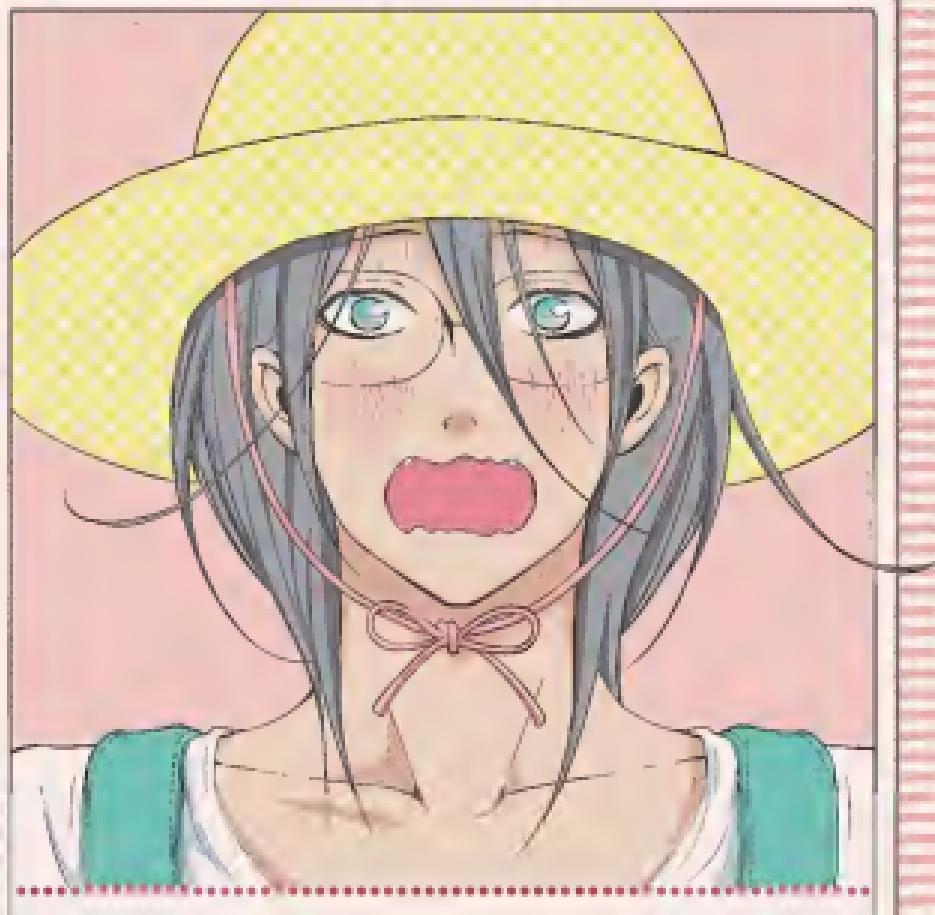


<b>CHAPTER 9</b>	vs. the Haiku Lesson	005
<b>CHAPTER 10</b>	vs. the Present	035
<b>CHAPTER 11</b>	vs. the Love Talk	063
<b>CHAPTER 12</b>	vs. the Homecoming	089
<b>CHAPTER 13</b>	vs. Sensei	129
<b>CHAPTER 14</b>	vs. the End	165

### Sensei and Me

<b>CHAPTER 11</b>	Together Working Out	025
<b>CHAPTER 12</b>	Together at the Amusement Park	051
<b>BONUS COMIC</b>	One Shlocket's Summer	081
<b>CHAPTER 13</b>	Together at Home	113
<b>CHAPTER 14</b>	Together Forever!	149





SHUT-IN  
SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI  
TAKES ON THE WORLD

3

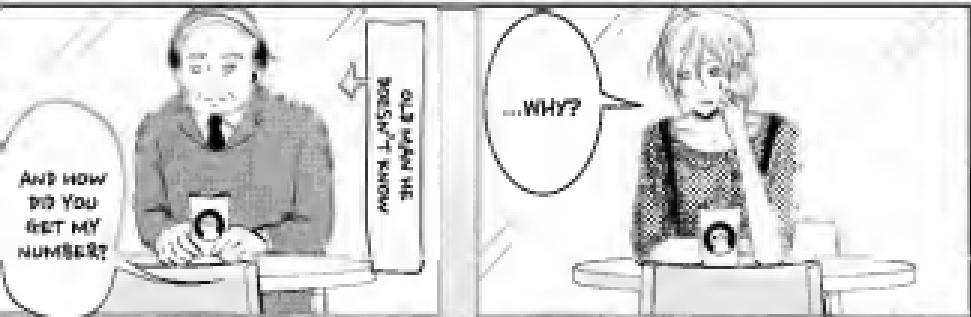
Dan Ichikawa



Date: 7/25 Day: F ☀

Today I went to the beach with Sensei. I swam about two meters. I drowned a little bit.

I'm super tired and sleepy, but I'm working hard to stay awake and write in this diary on the train home.

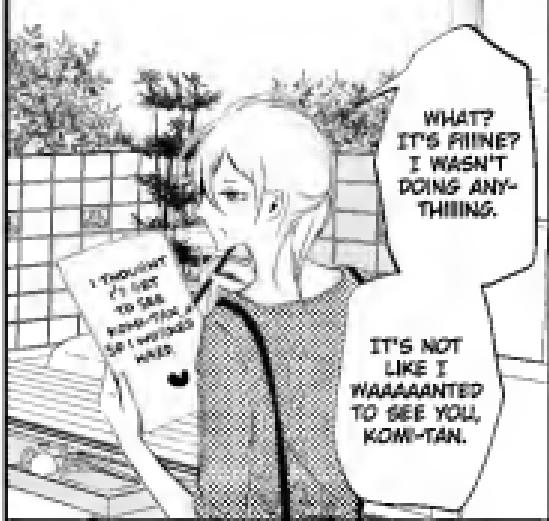


...SAIONJI-SAN  
AGREED TO  
ARRANGE FOR  
HAIKU LESSONS  
WITH IWAKURA-  
SENSEI!

AND  
SO...

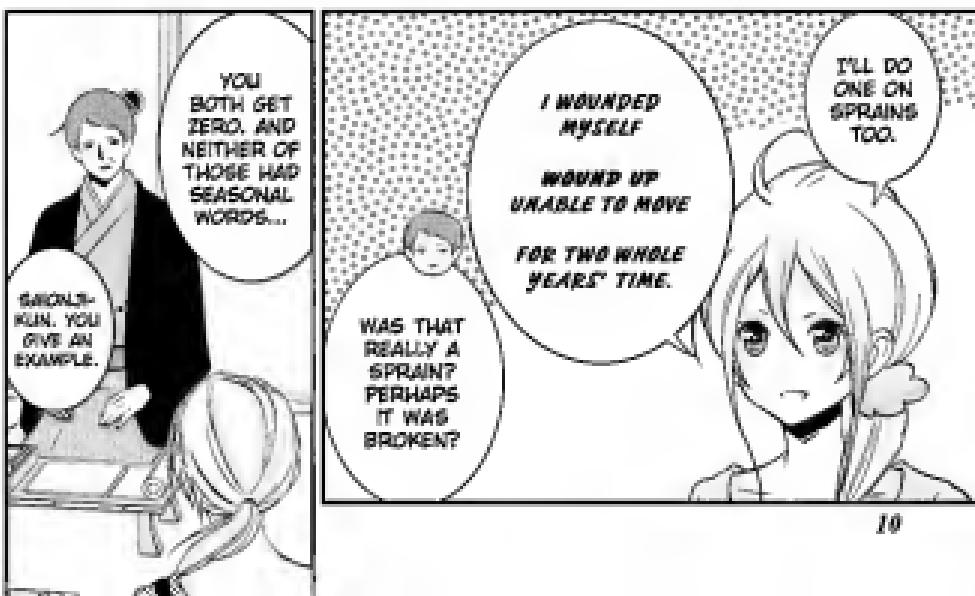
9

VS. THE HAIKU LESSON









...THAN  
EVEN U.V.  
RAYS  
IS...

WHAT IS  
MORE  
INTENSE...

IT'S ONLY THAT  
WE CAN'T TURN  
HIS HEAD BACK.  
THREE POINTS.

...YOUR  
GAZE  
UPON  
ME.  
♥

THE CATE MAKES  
HIS MOVE  
TO HOG UNMOVING  
BEDROOM  
IN EARLY  
SUMMER.

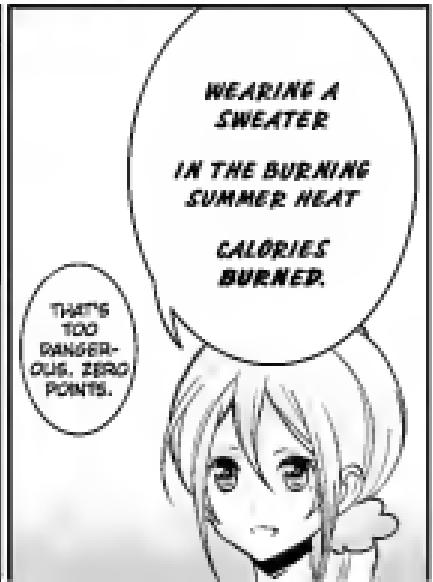
I'M NOT  
WICKING  
ANYONE!

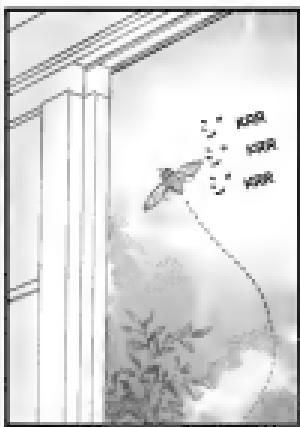
KATOU-  
KUN.

I  
HAVE  
ONE!

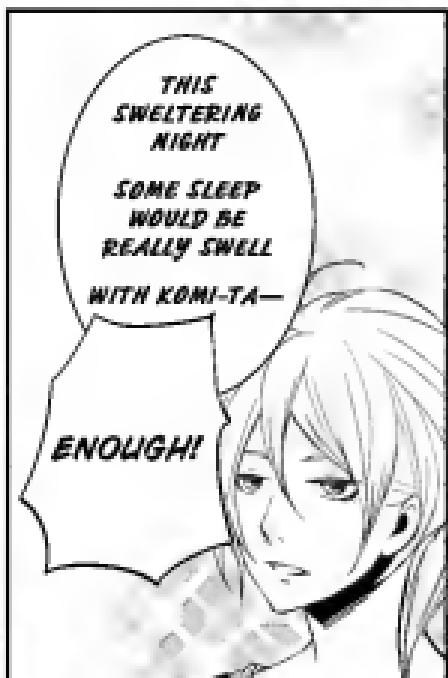
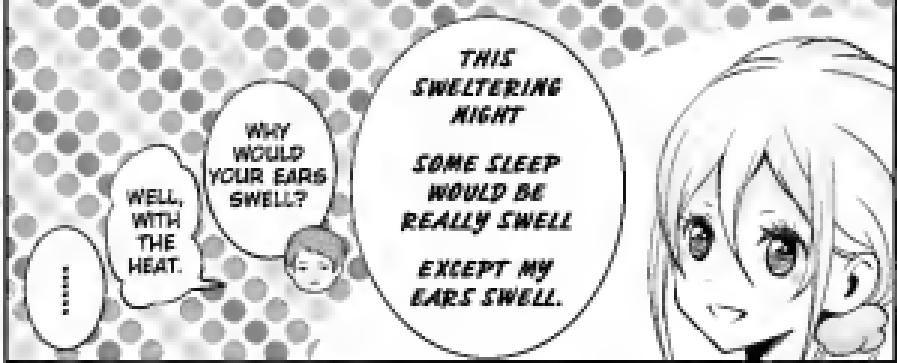
A  
CUCADA  
GOT IN  
HERE!

I'D LIKE  
TO BELIEVE  
THE SUMMER SUN  
COULD BE BLAMED  
FOR MY  
BEDD'ING  
FACE.













...AS SEEN  
THROUGH  
YOUR YOUNG  
SENSIBILITIES  
MIGHT REACH  
THE EYES  
OF MANY  
PEOPLE!

I SIMPLY  
WANTED YOU  
TO WIN AN  
AWARD...

...SO  
THAT THE  
BEAUTY  
AND  
WONDER  
OF THE  
JAPANESE  
SEASONS

THE  
BEAUTY AND  
WONDER  
OF THE  
SEASONS...

...  
DAD-SAMA  
T'~  
~!

BOWL OF  
DRAGON.

I WON'T  
APPEAR ON  
THE SHOW  
WITH YOU  
ANMORE  
BITHIER!

ENOUGH!  
GO  
HOME!

!!



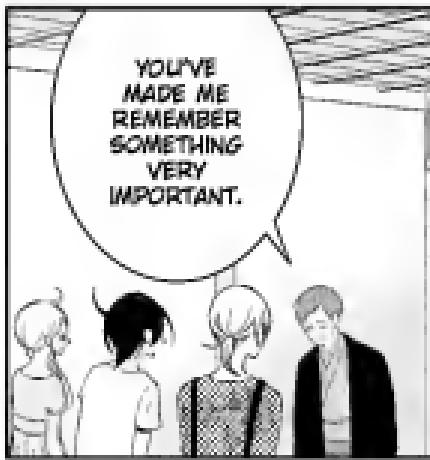




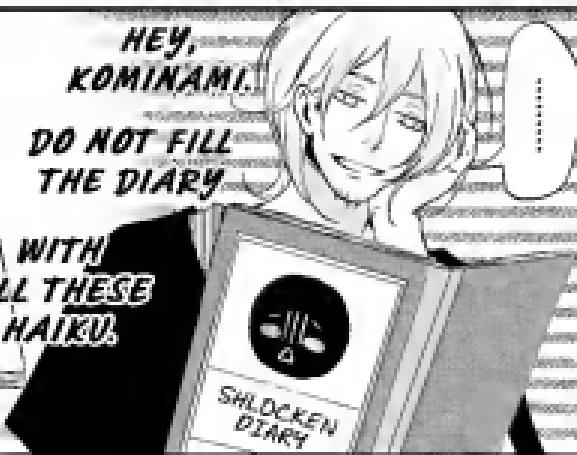
BEL IN THE BEL  
SWEEP OFF NON-EXISTENT FEET  
WE CANNOT BE H-BEL-PER.

I'LL DO ONE ABOUT BEL TOO.









TO BE  
CONTINUED

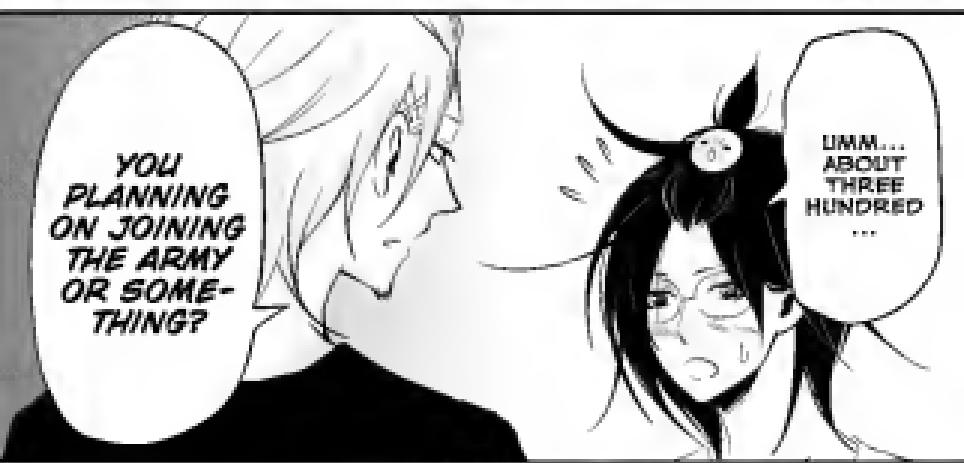
SHALOCKEN  
DIARY



HNN-  
GAAH!













...AND MY SHLOCKENS ARE ABOUT TO...

...RIP APART!!!

TO  
TO IL  
IL

I CAN'T!

I'VE DONE ZERO PULL-UPS...

YOU'RE GONNA DESTROY YOUR SHLOCKENS.

HEY! YOUR NOSE IS BLEEDING. JUST STOP ALREADY...

I DON'T WANT TO LET THEM DOWN...

THOSE KIDS ACTUALLY LOOK UP TO ME...

.....

MAYBE HE'S A FAKE SHLOCKEN MAN?

...ARE GONNA BE DE-stroyed ...?

HUH...? SHLOCKEN MAN'S SHLOCK-ENS...

UNH! UNH!

! AH!







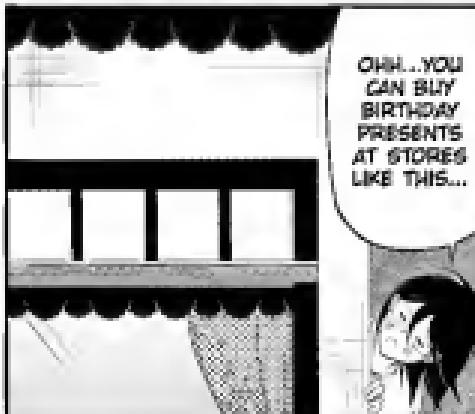


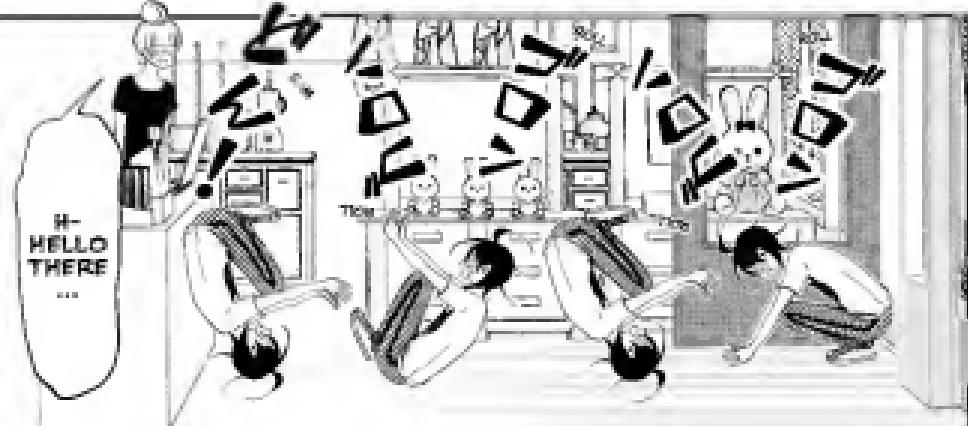


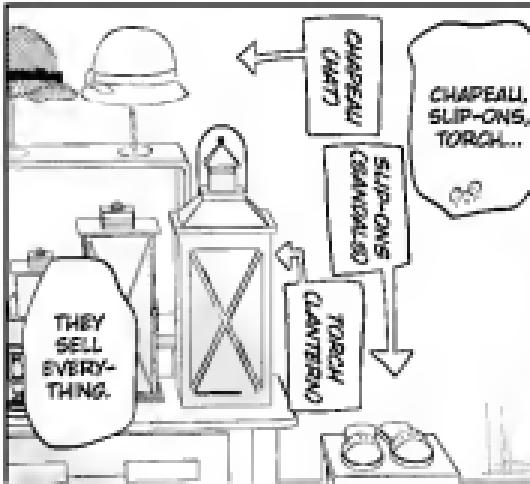
10

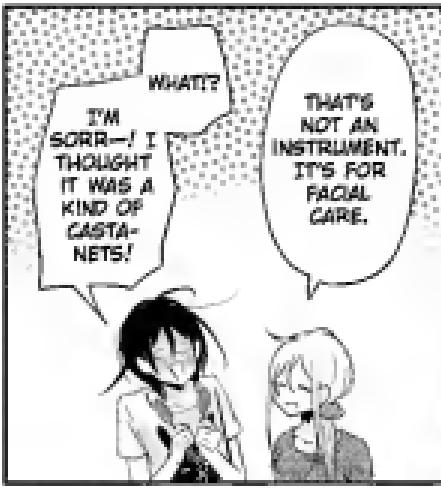
VS. THE  
PRESENT











THAT'S NOT AN INSTRUMENT. IT'S FOR FACIAL CARE.





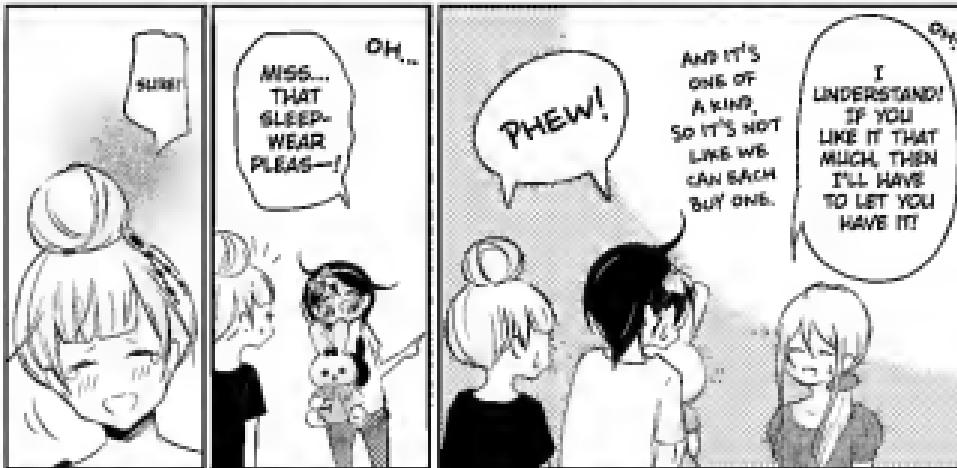










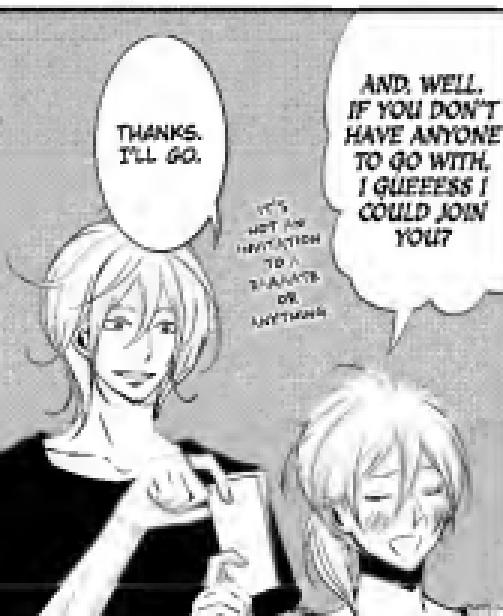


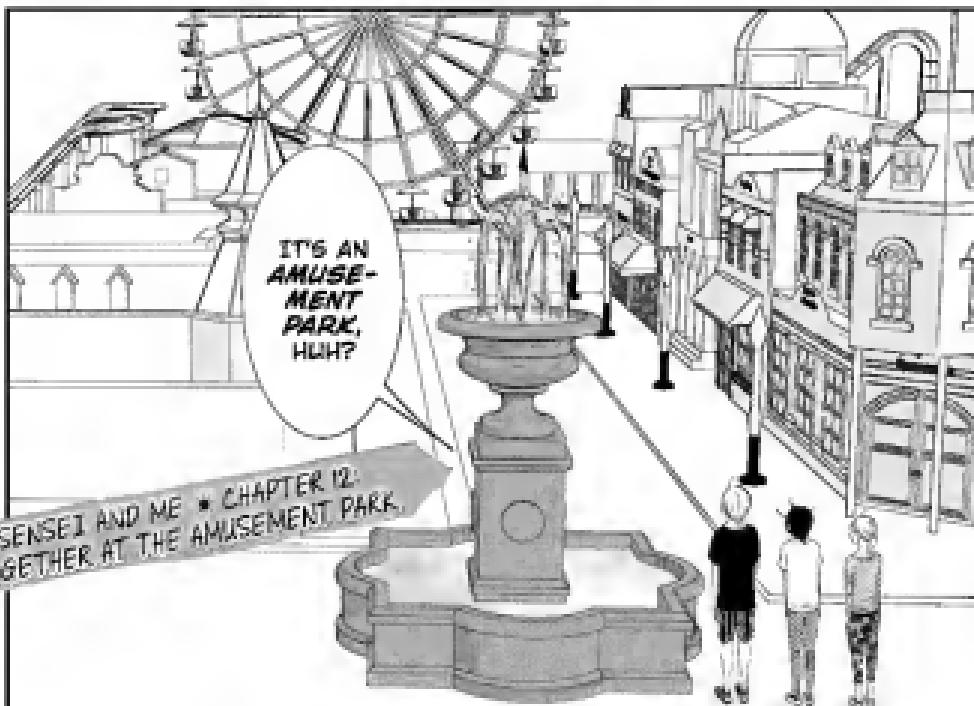




TO BE  
CONTINUED

100





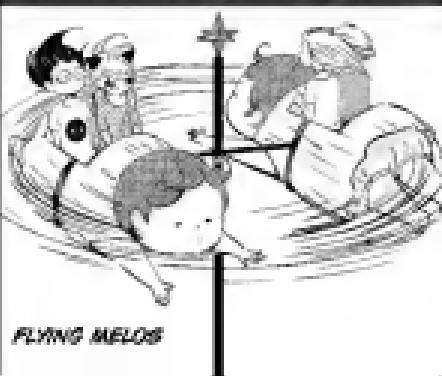


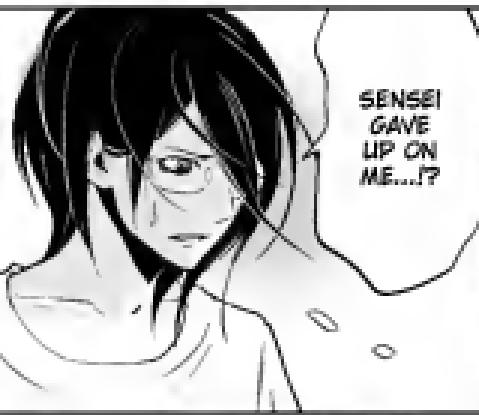
























11

VS. THE LOVE TALK



WE ENDED UP TAKING OUR DOGS FOR WALKS TOGETHER A BUNCH OF TIMES. HE TOLD ME HE LIKED ME, AND WE STARTED GOING OUT...

I MET MY BOYFRIEND, MA-KUN, AT THIS DOG CAFE TWO MONTHS AGO.

HEY'S MY FIRST BOYFRIEND.

...I'LL GIVE YOU SOME BACKGROUND TO HOW LONG WE'VE BEEN DATING AND THINGS...

FIRST OF ALL, BEFORE I TALK ABOUT MY PROBLEM...

OH! ME TOO. I GOT SOME THE OTHER DAY FROM KOMINAMI-SAN...

WHAT???

A KISS... ME TOO. NOT LONG AGO...

ANH TH-THE OTHER DAY, HE GAVE ME A KISS...

YOU CAN HAVE SOME TOO.

WELL, THEY WERE CHEAP AT THE SUPER-MAKET, SO...

A WHOLE BUNCH!

WOW-WOW-WHAT KIND OF RELATIONSHIP DO THESE TWO HAVE...???

THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT THE FISH







BUT I JUST GOT FAT AND WOUND UP LOOKING LIKE MY BROTHER...

I HAVE TRIED AND EVERYTHING... I DRANK LOTS OF MILK...

I GUESS IT'S A MATTER OF ADULT SEX APPEAL... I'M FLAT-CHESTED...

W  
H  
A  
A  
T  
?

I BASICALLY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT LOVE...

I-I'M SORRY, I-I—

FISH ?

TH- THAT WAS ABOUT FISH... SORR...

B-BUT YOU SAID YOU KISSED KATOU-SAN...

!?

It's Ma-kun ...!

?





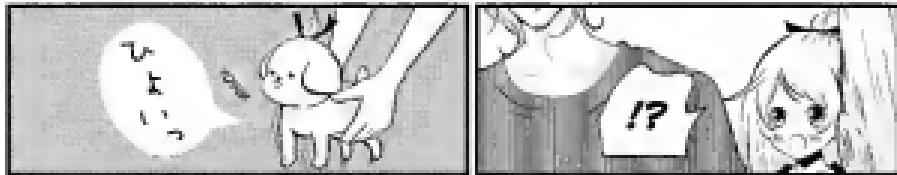




THAT'S IT.

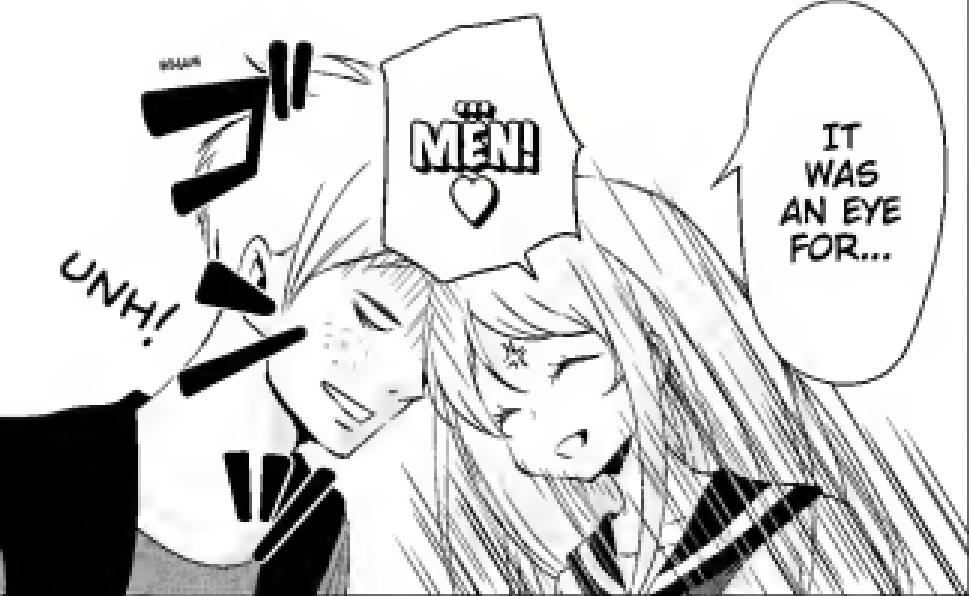
"...BECAUSE YOU END UP IN HELL."

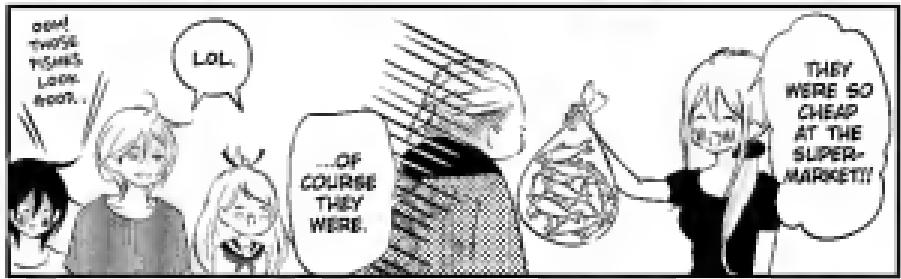












BONUS COMIC

# ONE SHLOCKEN'S SUMMER

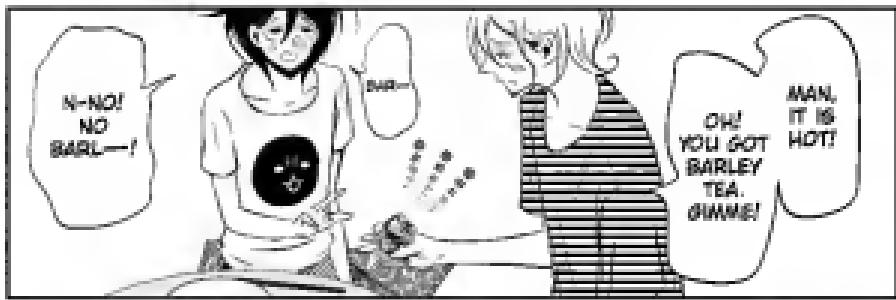
STARTS NOW: PEEAAAAAH...



TRANCE



## BARLEY TEA



SOMETHING SUMMERY(?) HAPPENED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

MOVIE



TAMA-CHAN WAS SHOCKED.

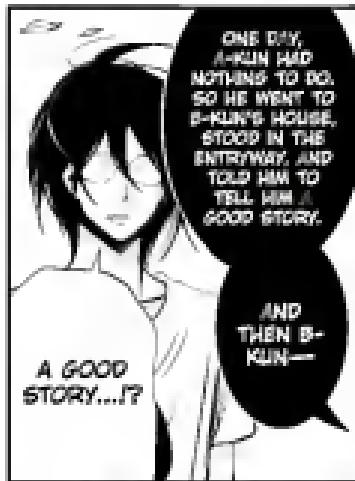


FUR



EYEBROWS DON'T GROW BACK! MROW!

## GHOST STORY



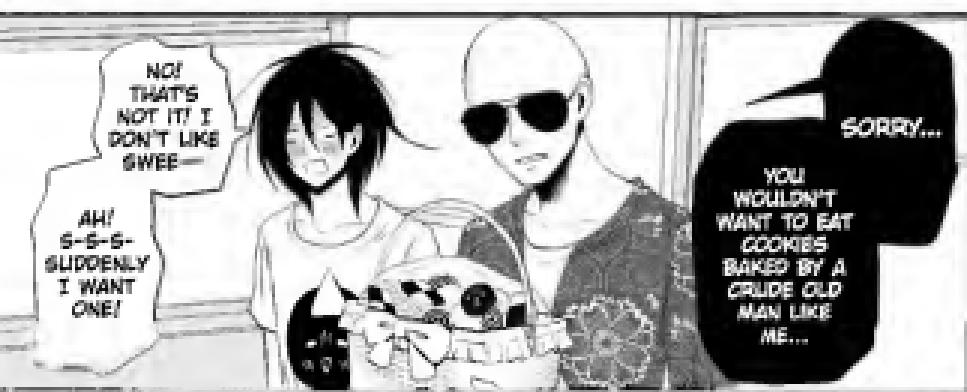
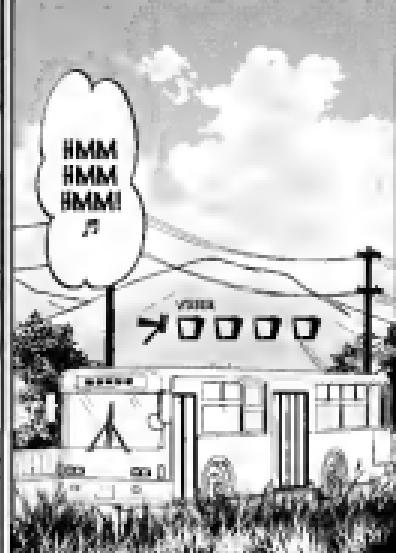
I WANT TO KNOW THE REST OF HIS BEST SCARY STORY...

## BEER GARDEN



AND THIS BRINGS US TO PAGE 4.







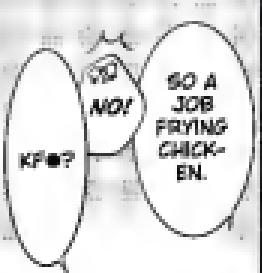
12

## VS. THE HOMECOMING

IT'S  
GRANDMA  
AND  
GRANDPA!!

WEL-  
COME  
HOME!



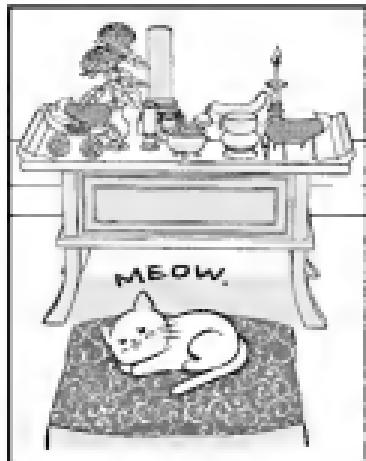












WE'RE GOING  
TO TAKE FIRST  
PRIZE WITH  
THESE GHOST  
COSTUMES!

NOTHING  
SAYS OBON  
LIKE  
GHOSTS!!

GRANDPA

AND  
GET  
THE  
PRIZE!

OH OF  
COURSE...  
THEY'RE REALLY  
FIRE UP  
ABOUT THAT.

THEY'RE  
PRACTICING  
FOR THE  
COSTUME  
CONTEST AT  
THE OBON  
DANCE AGAIN  
TODAY.

MOMMY!  
BEAT TURTLE  
ARE SCARY...  
HOLD ME...

OH! YOU'RE  
ALREADY  
DOING THE  
WELCOME  
FIRE.

THEY'RE  
ALREADY  
HERE  
--!!

D-DEAD  
PEOPLE!

OH!  
YOU'RE  
BACK.

I DON'T  
LIKE IT!  
IT'S  
SCARY!!

M-  
MOMMY

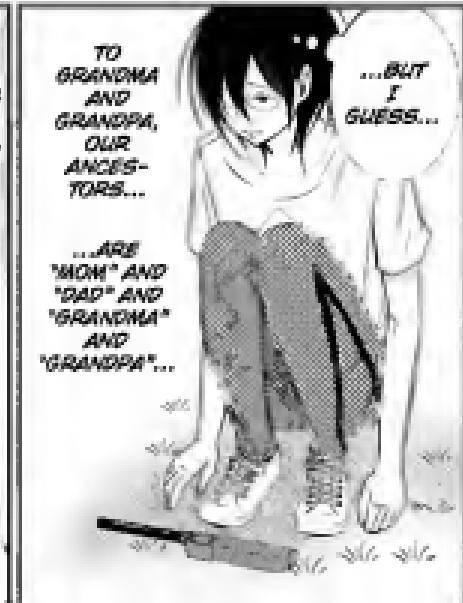
PUT  
OUT THE  
WEL-  
COME  
FIRE  
☆  
= \$  
!!!

SHHH  
SHHH  
SHHH

SHHH  
SHHH  
SHHH











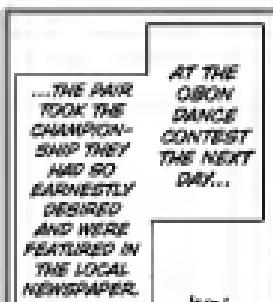
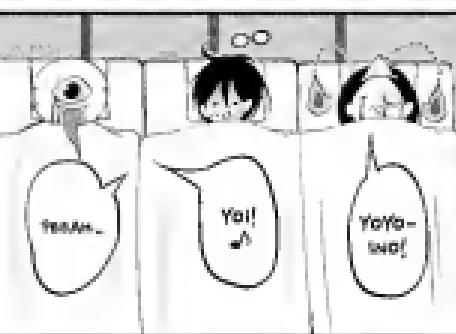










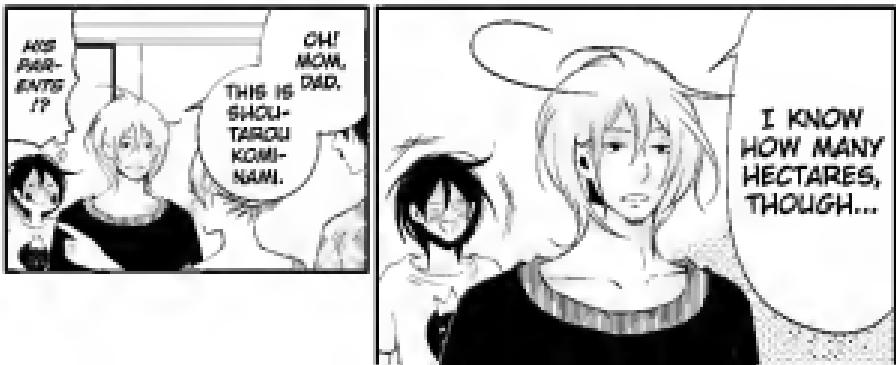


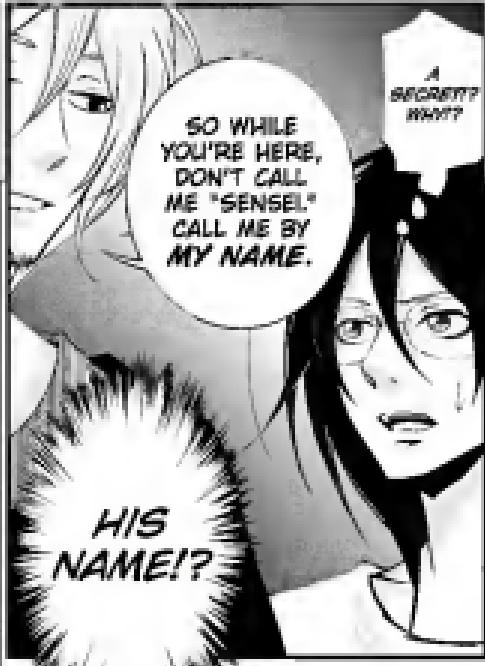
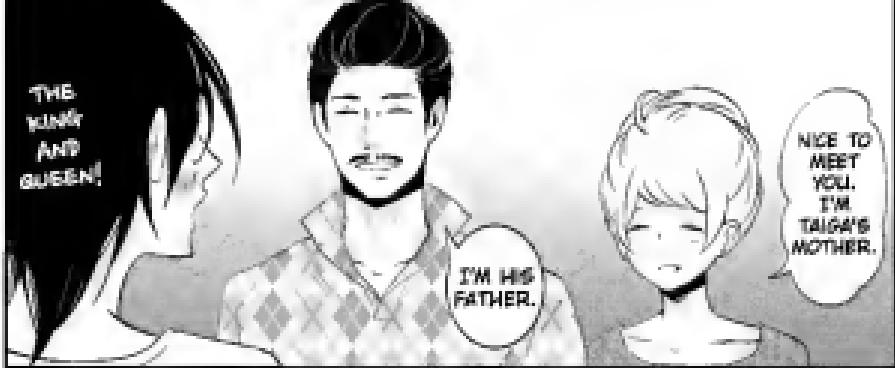




















IT'S  
TOO  
MANY!  
IT'S  
CREEPY!

I DON'T  
NEED ALL  
THESE!

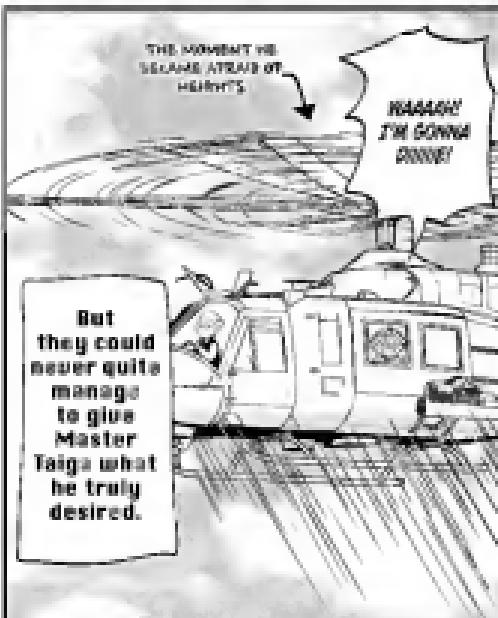
THERE ARE  
FIVE HUNDRED  
THOUSAND  
CLAMS!

Taking  
pity  
on him,  
the couple  
quickly  
gave him  
a clam  
nursery...

Master  
Taiga  
did not  
like it.

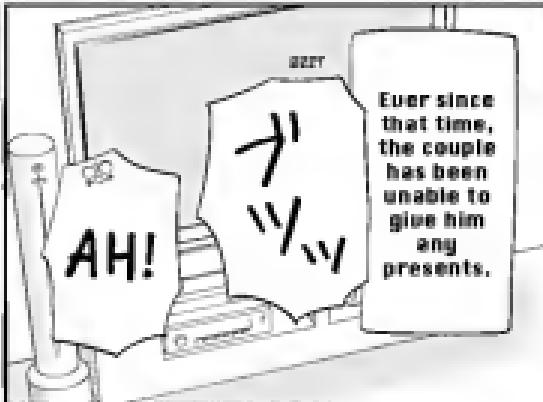


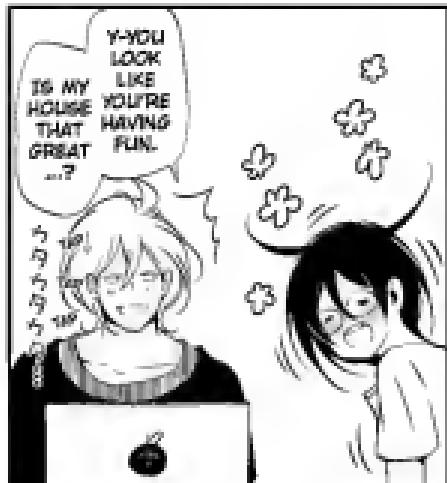
Simply  
wanting  
to buy  
something  
for Master  
Taiga that  
would  
make him  
happy...





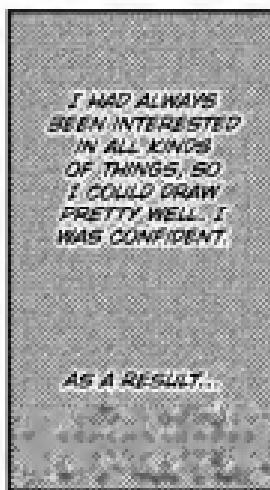
Yes, anything he wanted...

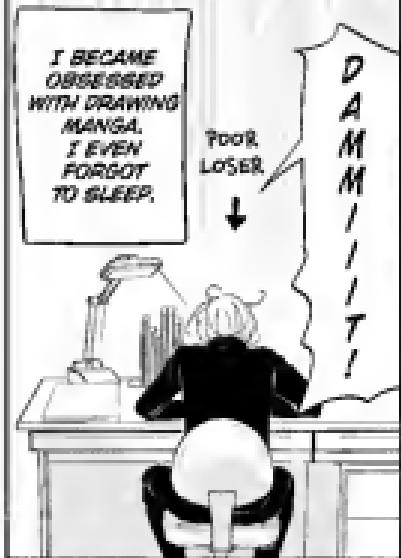






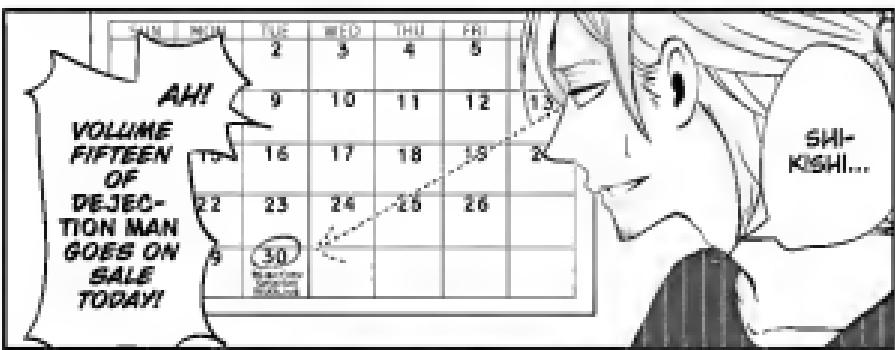




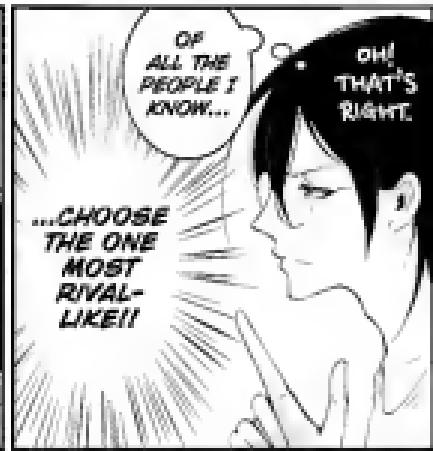












13

VS. SENSEI

TANPOPO-CHO  
3-CHOME

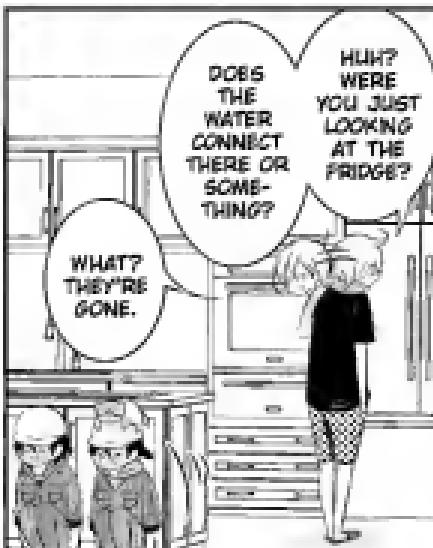
PERFECTION MAN  
BY MATT HILL

YAAAAM!





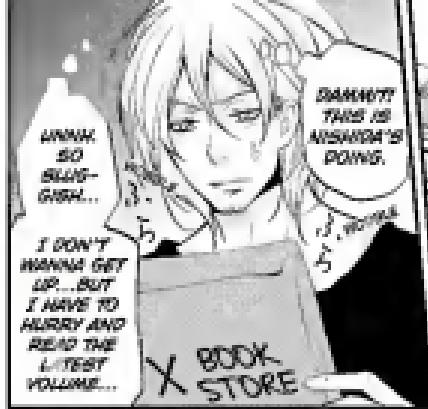
















I HAVE  
EVERY  
VOLUME OF  
DEJECTION  
MAN...

...SO I CAN  
RESEARCH  
HIM  
THOROUGHLY  
AND TAKE  
HIM DOWN.

SO A  
PSYCHOLOGIST  
AND A MANGA  
ARTIST CAN  
START AT THE  
SAME TIME  
AND BE  
RIVALS?

THE GUY  
WHO DRAWS IT,  
MINET MINET,  
DEBUTED AT  
THE SAME TIME  
AS ME. WE'RE  
RIVALS.

THICK

WHAT?  
WHY ARE  
YOU MAD,  
NISOGURO-  
SENSEI...?

WE'RE  
DEF-  
INITIALLY  
TAKING  
HIM  
DOWN!!

SO  
SENSEI'S  
DOING A  
THOROUGH  
INVESTI-  
GATION OF  
HIS RIVAL  
TOOL...

WE'RENT-  
ALLY,  
"MINET"  
MEANS  
"PUSSYCAT"  
IN TRIBRACH

MEOWHAT  
!?

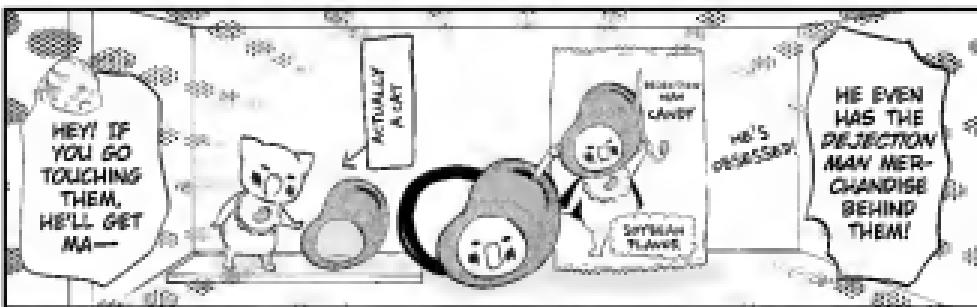
MINET  
MINET IS  
ONE OF  
MY PEN  
NAMES-  
MYAH!!

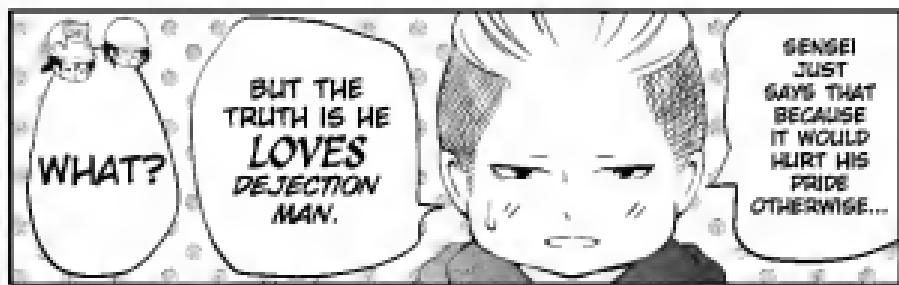
WE'RE  
GOING  
BACK TO  
BEARDIE'S  
PLACE AND  
CONFIS-  
CATING  
EVERY  
VOLUME!!

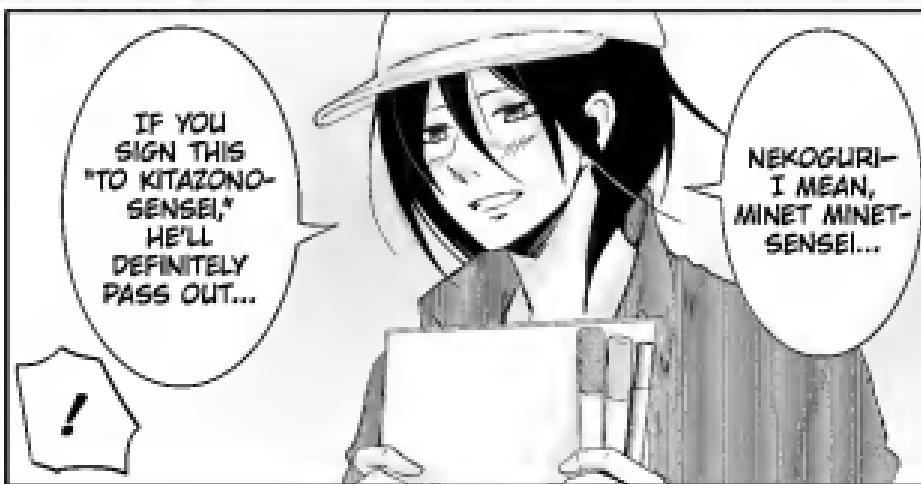
I MEWSE  
DIFFERENT  
NAMES  
DEPEND-  
ING  
ON THE  
STYLE!!



DEJECTION MAN? ON THAT BOOKSHELF THERE!







TO KITAZONO-SENSEI

THANKS FOR  
CHEERING  
ME ON!

MINET MINET

WHY IS  
THERE A  
SIGNED  
MINET MINET  
IN MY POST  
BOX...?

WAAAHH//  
I CAN'T  
SHOW  
SENSEI  
THIS  
ENTRY...!!!

AH!

"AND THAT  
IS HOW I  
MANAGED TO  
TAKE SENSEI  
DOWN!"

DEJECTION  
MAN  
VS.  
SHLOCKEN  
MAN







I MEAN, MY SHLOCKEN'S BITTER AND EVERYTHING...

THAT'S A LIE... SENSEI'S A PSYCHOLOGIST...

!?

I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU!!

MAN, YOU WERE MORE FLUSTERED THAN ANYTHING ELSE.

SEE? I WAS KIND OF LIKE A SHLOCKEN ESCAPEE JUST NOW!!

WELCOME!

BUT...

A LITTLE SOON TO BE GROWING UP.

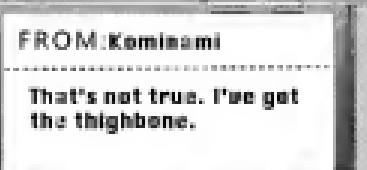
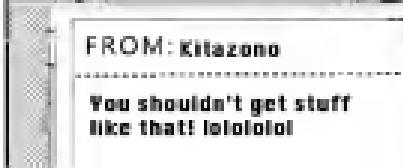
TWO ENORMOUS HAMBURG STEAKS!! WITH THE DEMI-GLACE SAUCE, RICE, AND THE DRINK BAR SET!!

SMOKING OR NOT?

FOR HOW MANY?

SMOKY-HIGH

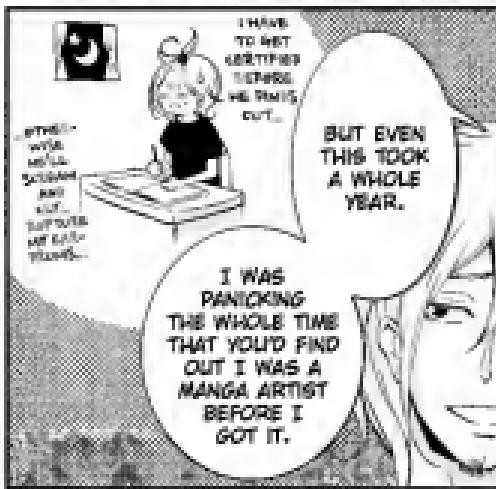
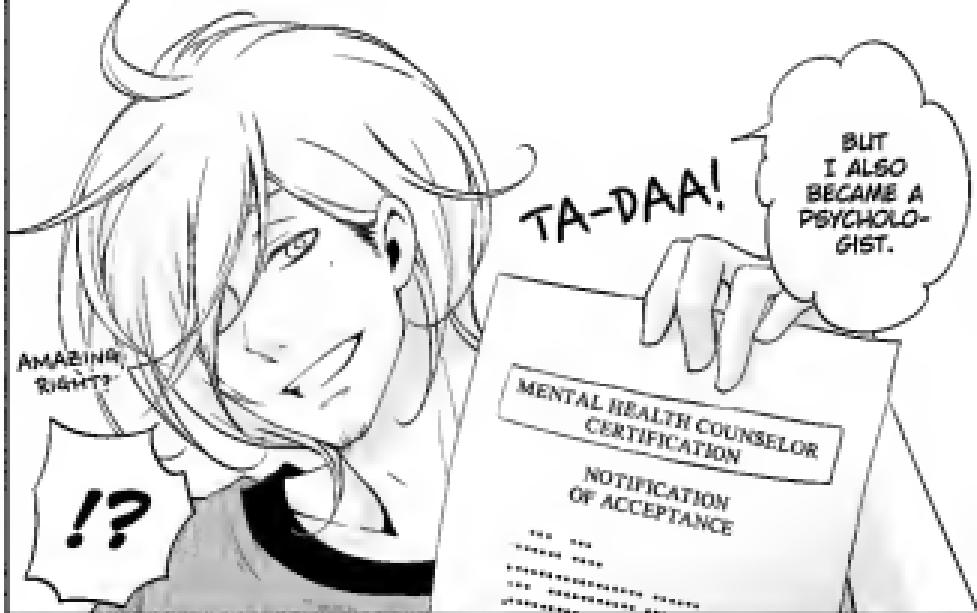
FOR TWO!!





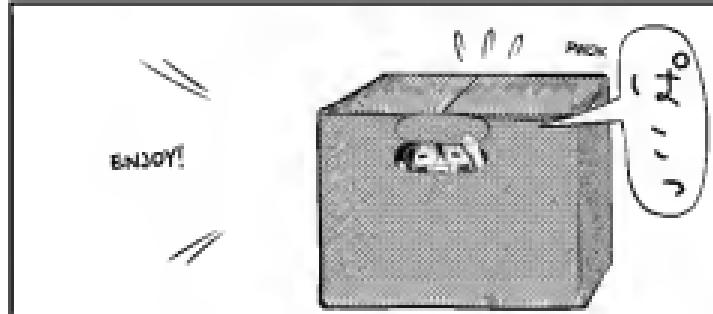
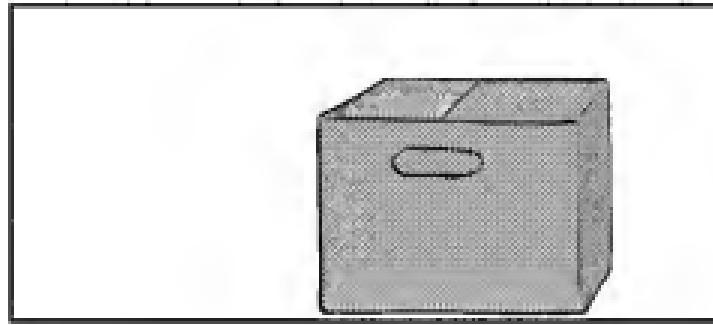
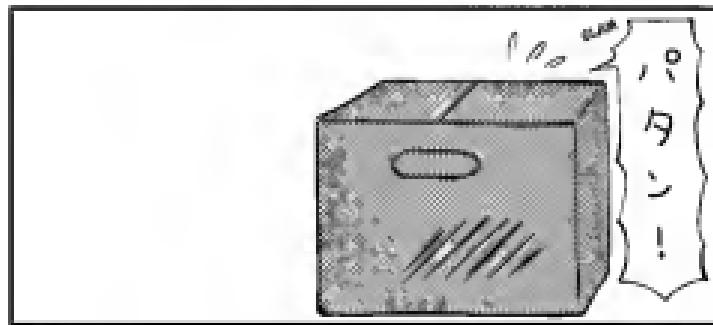












## Shlocken vs. the Dog

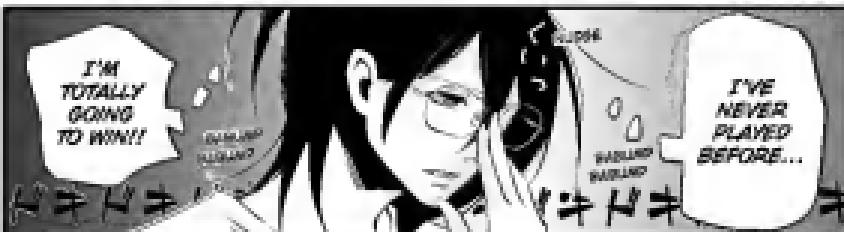


## Shlocken vs. the Tissue Guy



HEARTS CONNECTED BY TISSUES ♥

## Shlocken vs. Shiritori



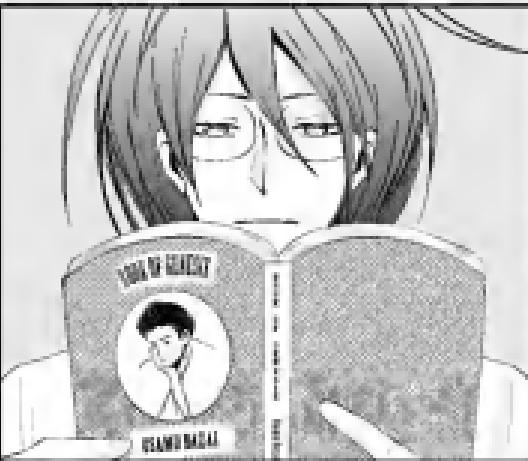
## Shlocken vs. the Kanji Test



TAKE THE FIGHT TO THE PUBLIC BATH.

## Shlocken vs. the Famous Saying

"Love  
is a  
word."



WHEN PEOPLE  
HEAR THIS  
WONDERFUL  
WORD, THEY  
REALLY DO  
WANT TO TELL  
SOMEONE...



...THERE'S  
NO REASON  
A POTATO  
WOULD  
KNOW THAT.



BUT HIS COMMUNICATION SKILLS AREN'T UP TO IT.

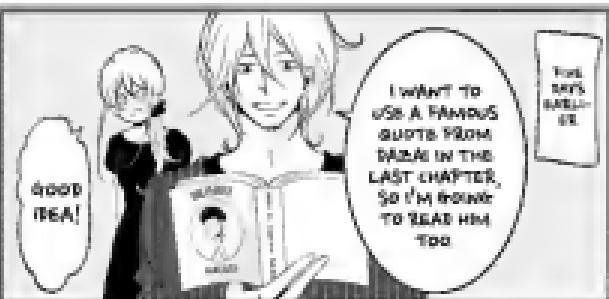
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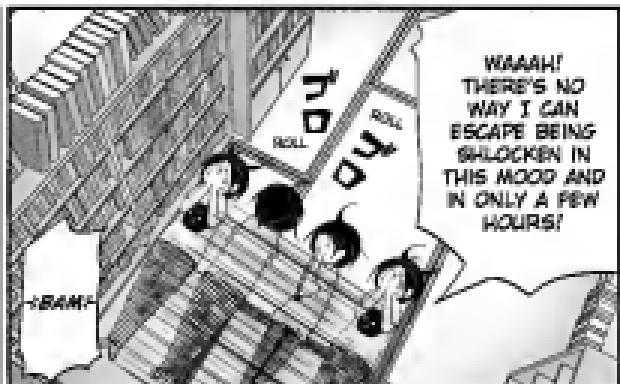
VS. THE END





REASON ↓





"Falling  
down  
midway  
is the  
same as  
doing  
nothing  
from the  
start."



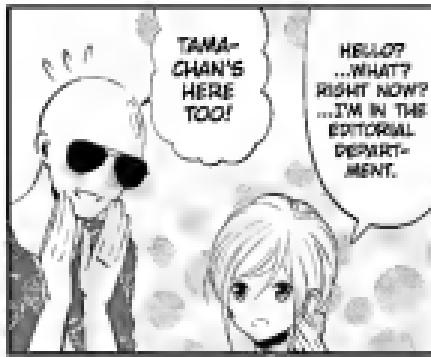


THEY'LL GO FROM  
ACQUAINTANCES TO  
STRANGERS...



STRANGERS...

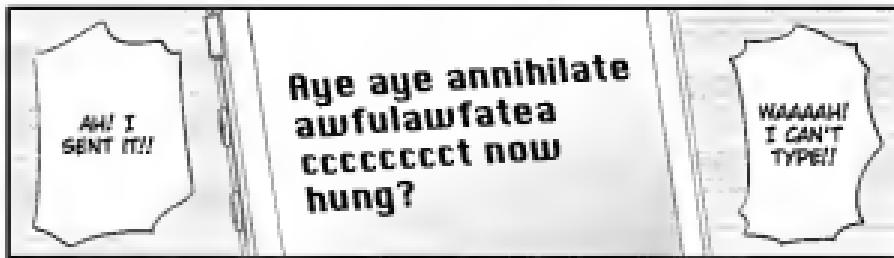
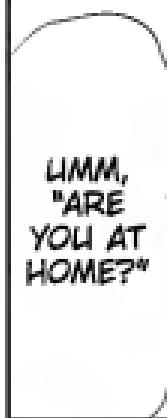










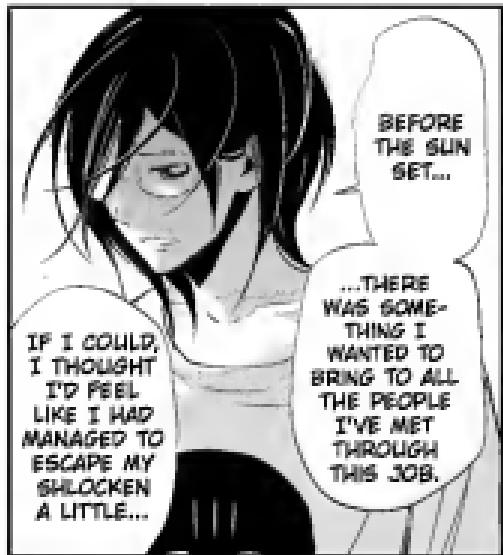


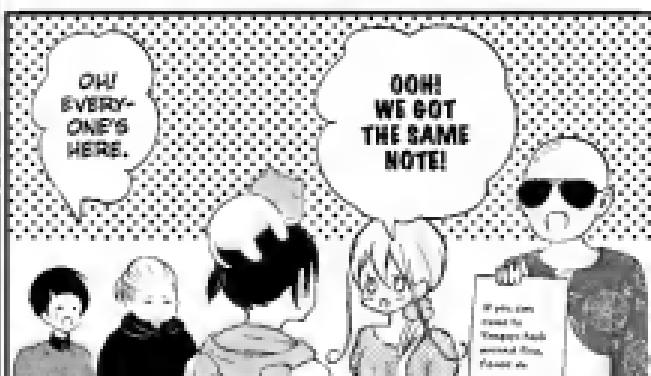


PM 4:30









If you can come to the Tempozan Park around five, please do.



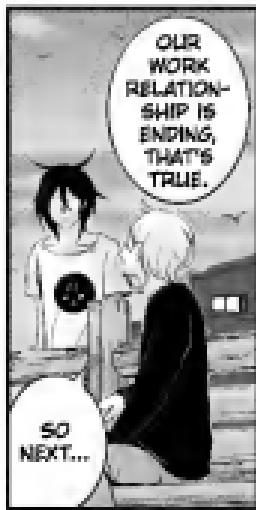






I LOVE  
YOU!!!







...THEY'RE  
GOING  
TO BE  
MADE INTO  
A BOOK!

CONCEPT  
ILLUSTRATION

CHILDREN'S DIARY

I WAS  
GOING  
TO TELL  
YOU THIS  
AFTERNOON.

THOSE  
DIARIES  
THAT YOU  
WROTE...

I FIGURED  
YOU'D BE ALL  
TEARY-EYED  
AND WOULDN'T  
SHUT UP  
ABOUT BEING  
UNEMPLOYED,  
SO...

AND IT WAS  
SENSEI'S IDEA!

OH!  
THAT'S  
ACTUALLY  
WHAT WE  
WERE MEET-  
ING ABOUT  
TODAY.

WHAT  
...?

I'M A  
WRITER!?

SO THAT  
MEANS YOU'RE  
A WRITER,  
KOMINAMI-SAN.  
AND I'M THE  
EDITOR WHO'LL  
BE WORKING  
WITH YOU.

A HARDCORE  
SHLOCK-  
EN!

YOU  
REALLY DO  
THINK LIKE  
A HARDCORE  
SHLOCKEN,  
HUH?

THE  
FRIEND  
IS GONE!  
MY ONLY  
FRIEND,  
GONE IN AN  
INSTANT!

I GUESS  
WE'RE  
RIVALS  
STARTING  
TODAY.

RIVAL

FRIEND

RIVAL  
RIVALS  
...





...YOU  
GREW IN THE  
DIRECTION  
OF GROWTH.

YOU WENT  
OUTSIDE...

...AND YOU  
WERE HIT  
BY THE  
SUN, SO...

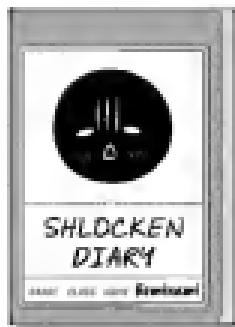




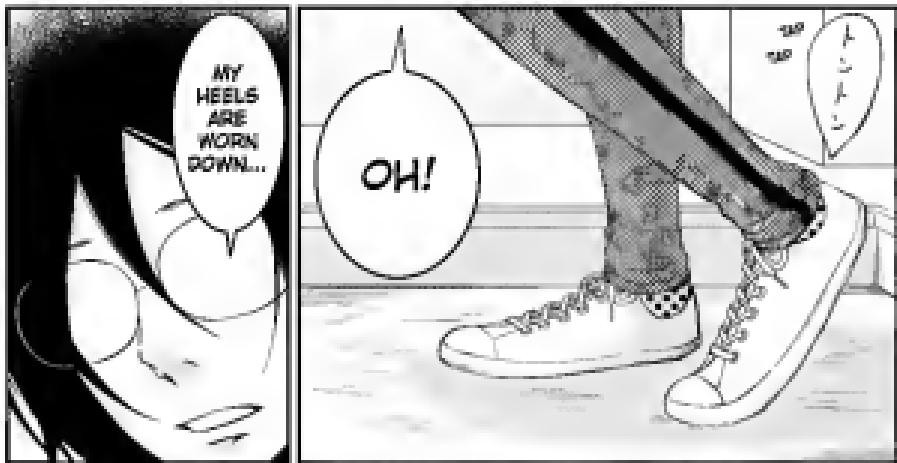
THEY'LL  
LAUGH  
AND LAUGH  
AT ME A  
LOT...

۲۰۱

*...AND I'LL GROW—*



THE END



...PROOF  
THAT I'VE  
WALKED.



SHUT-IN: THE STORY OF HOW A SHUT-IN BOY NOT A CARPENTER, SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI



SHUT-IN SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI TAKES ON THE WORLD [3] END

# SHUT-IN

SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI



# TAKES ON THE WORLD



WE'RE ACTUALLY HAVING SASHIMI TONIGHT!

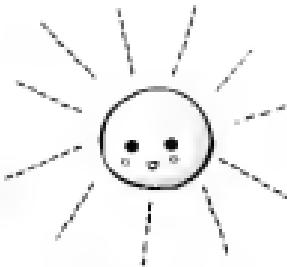
OH! THANK YOU.

IN THE LANGUAGE OF FLOWERS, THE DANDELION EMBODIES THE DEVOTION OF LOVE...

KATOU-SAN... YOU CAN HAVE THIS DANDELION.



# SHUT-IN



# SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI

KOMI-TAN!  
I BROUGHT A  
WEAPON!

LOL

SMACK!

PEEAH!



## TRANSLATION NOTES

### Common Honorifics

- san: Indicates familiarity or closeness; if used without permission or reason, addressing someone in this manner would constitute an insult.
- san: The Japanese equivalent of Mr. (Mrs./Miss). If a situation calls for politeness, this is the fail-safe honorific.
- sama: Conveys great respect; may also indicate that the social status of the speaker is lower than that of the addressee.
- kun: Used most often when referring to boys, this indicates affection or familiarity. Occasionally used by older men among their peers, but it may also be used by anyone referring to a person of lower standing.
- chan: An affectionate honorific indicating familiarity used mostly in reference to girls; also used in reference to cute persons or animals of either gender.
- sensei: A respectful term for teachers, artists, or high-level professionals.

### Page 11

Katou's haiku here uses the phrase *debutante*, which means "bookworm" in the first instance and incorporates portions of the words "adore" and "early summer" in the second instance.

### Page 13

*Somen* are very thin needles generally served cold in the summertime.

### Page 14

The specific dish *Kominami* is referring to here is *nagashi somen*. The somen needles are sent flowing down a cold-water flame through an open length of bamboo, and people pick it out with chopsticks as it flows by.

Katou's play on words in Japanese is between *soomen* (the needles) and *soome* ("surface area"). More literally, her haiku is "I'd like to know the total surface area of somen."

### Page 15

Katou uses a homophone for "sweltering night" in each line of her haiku. More literally, her haiku is "The sweltering night / But I want to sleep / I massage my cat."

### Page 18

*Onigiri* is a dish consisting of rice on top of rice. It is also a typical summer food.

### Page 30

Canned coffee is typically about half the size of a can of soda.

### Page 33

*Night on the Galactic Railroad* is a classic Japanese novel by Kenji Miyazawa, "The Spider's Thread" is a famous short story by Ryunosuke Akutagawa, and "Run, Miles!" is a famous short story by Otaru Daisi. Natsume Soseki was an important Japanese writer who penned many classic books, including *I Am a Cat* and *Kotoba*. "The cat with no name" here refers to the title cat of *I Am a Cat*.

### Page 34

Yasunari Kawabata was the first Japanese author to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

### Page 55

The Akutagawa Prize, named after famed writer Ryunosuke Akutagawa, is one of Japan's most prestigious literary awards.

### Page 67

The word for "Japanese whiting" is the same as "kiss" in Japanese (kisu).

### Page 83

The last name of Roy Ramos, who played and coached professional soccer in Japan beginning in 1977, is spelled with the same characters as the famed Godzilla character Mothra, but in a different order (Gamera vs. Mothra).

Page 84

**Gari-gari-kun** is a popular potato chip that has crunchy bits of flavored ice in it.

Page 89

**Obon** is a time in the summer when Japanese people return to their hometowns to honor their ancestors by performing various rites to welcome the visiting spirits and maintain the graves of those passed, as well as to gather in local festivals and dances.

Page 94

**Kinako** is a powder made of roasted soybeans often used as a topping for sweets.

**Mochi** is a chewy, sweet, pounded rice cake.

Page 109

**Yoyobaseyai** is a nonsense word called out rhythmically during Obon dances.

Page 125

The *from A* magazine is a parody of the job-hunting magazine and website *from A*.

**Monthly Basara** seems to be a parody of *Monthly Gangan*, the magazine in which *Shouta Shoutarou Everyone Takes On the World* ran.

Page 129

**SAIKAKU** are stiff boards often used by fans getting autographs or drawings from celebrities.

Page 131

**A goshirley** is a ladderlike chart commonly used in Japan to make random choices.

Page 161

Small packets of tissues are often handed out in front of stations and other public places as a form of advertising.

Page 162

**Shiritori** is a word game in which players take turns saying a word that begins with the last syllable of the previous word. For example, *ayoiare* might be followed by *reba*. If one player says a word that ends with “n” (in the example above, *reba*), the game is over because no Japanese words begin with the syllable “n” (A).

Page 163

Written Japanese utilizes borrowed Chinese characters, or *kanji*, that help distinguish homophones from one another. In this case, “public bath” is a homophone for “fight” or “battle;” Komamura has mistakenly chosen the *kanji* for the former to complete his test.

Page 192

The books on Shoutarou’s shelf now include some of his own, many of which are parodies of Osamu Dazai’s titles: *Bye-bye* by Shoutarou Komamura; *Good-bye* by Osamu Dazai; *New Hanaotaku* by Shoutarou Komamura; *New Shouter* by Osamu Dazai; *It Is Just Barely* by Shoutarou Komamura; *Barely* by Osamu Dazai; *The Words of Master Kitazono* by Shoutarou Komamura; *The Words of Master Ozu* by Osamu Dazai; *Ran, Melon* by Osamu Dazai; *Pandora’s Box* by Osamu Dazai; *Shockies Diary 1* by Shoutarou Komamura; *Shockies Diary 2* by Shoutarou Komamura; *Shockies Diary 3* by Shoutarou Komamura.

The rest of the books set by Osamu Dazai: *No Longer Human*; *Fireworks in Winter*; *On Love and Beauty*; *The Spring Sun*; *Early Light*; *Fairy Tales*; *Chivalry*; *Ranmaru*; *Justice and a Smile*; *Schoolgirl*; *Happy Day*; *Return to Tsugara*; *Woman’s Duel*; *Eight Views of Tokyo*.

Page 195

The original title of Shoutarou’s manuscript is *The Story of When a Digital Camera was Not a Turtle*, which plays on the words “digikame,” a Japanese portmanteau of digital camera, and “kame,” which means turtle.

# SHUT-IN SHOUTAROU KOMINAMI TAKES ON THE WORLD ③

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Dan Ichikawa

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This book is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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